

Goals: The goals of the year are to improve in writing, reading and comprehension, vocabulary, and participation skills.

Class Rules: The following rules are important in creating an atmosphere that promotes participation and respect in the classroom to enhance the learning experience.

Attendance:

Absences

If you are legally absent for one or two days, you must make up the missed work NO LATER THAN THE DAY AFTER YOU RETURN TO CLASS. After that day, you will receive a -0- for work not made up. It is your responsibility to see me before or after class to obtain missed assignments.

If you are legally absent three or more days, see me about an appropriate deadline for missed work.

Lateness

You must arrive to class on time and be in your seat at the start of the period. If you are repeatedly late, actions will be taken to avoid tardiness in the future.

Class Preparedness:

All students should arrive in class on time and be in their assigned seats at the bell. You are prepared for class if you have the following:

1. a pen/pencil
2. a 3 ring notebook/binder
3. novel/ textbook/ or vocabulary book
4. any homework assigned
5. Thumb drive (USB stick)

Extra Help:

Any student may ask for and receive extra help either before school or after school. Extra help is available upon request.

Homework and other assignments:

Homework must be completed and in class at the start of the period to receive credit for the assignment. If I find that you have copied someone else's work, whether for homework or writing assignment, both you and the student from whom you have copied will receive a zero for that assignment. This includes vocabulary assignments. Also, if I find that you have written down random answers and have not actually attempted the work, you will also receive a zero.

Participation:

I expect everyone to participate. This is a form of assessment. It shows me that you are focused on the activity and understand the material. Participation is a great way to bring your participation grade up to 100. However, if you are disruptive or disrespectful, unprepared, or are asked to leave the classroom, your grade will go down based on the following point deductions:

Unprepared= -5

Disruptive or disrespectful= -5

Tardy= -5

Removal from class= -10

Cut= -20

Grades:

Your grade will be based on a point system. Tests and essays will count most, quizzes and homework will count less. Please keep track of your grades throughout each quarter.

Please Do Not:

- bring food or drinks into the classroom unless there are extenuating circumstances which have been discussed with me.
- have any cell phones or beepers turned on while in the classroom; any phones I see will be taken and given to the office at the end of the day.
- disrespect others or their property. Do not disrupt someone who is speaking and please keep your hands to yourself.
- bring ipods or other technology that does not belong in school.

Grade 8 curriculum

- Currents in Fiction ----- Various Authors
- On Borrowed Time----- Paul Osborn
- The Outsiders----- S.E. Hinton
- The Pearl----- John Steinbeck
- The Cage ----- Ruth Minsky Sender
- The Pigman----- Paul Zindel
- Animal Farm----- George Orwell

Poetry
Writing
Grammar:

- Eight parts of speech
- Adjective phrase/adverb phrase
- Sentence patterns
- Simple/Compound/Complex sentences

Writing Policy: any writing assignment that receives a grade of C or lower can be submitted again for a grade no higher than a B.

Parent/ Guardian Signature

Please go over the information on this sheet with your parent/guardian and have him/her sign as an indication that these class rules have been read and understood. Please sign for yourself indicating the same understanding.

Parent / guardian signature date your signature